

137945 to 138007—Continued

cluster, green, with watermelon stripes when immature but bright red when ripe. The seeds are small, numerous, white, and tick-shaped.

137975. *MELOTHRIA* sp.

No. 3443. From Donggala, Celebes, April 5, 1940. An ornamental climbing vine, with tendril bearing fuzzy, palmate, five-lobed leaves, and attractive bright-red fruits $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches long and $\frac{1}{2}$ inch in diameter. The small, greenish-yellow, flattened seeds resemble ticks and are surrounded by cream-colored pulp.

137976. *MURRAYA PANICULATA* (L.) Jack. Rutaceae.

No. 230. Plants collected on Lembek Island, Minahassee, Celebes, February 18, 1940. An attractive shrub with dark shiny leaves and fragrant white flowers resembling orange blossoms.

For previous introduction see 115888.

137977. *MUSA* sp. Musaceae.

No. 3406. From Kebon, Kepi, Celebes, March 20, 1940. A tall banana up to 15 feet in height, of stoloniferous habit, with the trunk 8 inches in diameter at the base, and with leaves up to 10 feet long, with a strong purplish cast on the under side. The fruits resemble those of *Musa errans*, but the bunch hangs down almost vertically, and is compactly arranged much as in *Gros Michel*. The fruit is thin-skinned, with sparse, creamy pulp filled with flattened, round, irregular seeds.

137978. *MUSA* sp.

No. 3407. From Kebon, Kepi, Celebes, March 20, 1940. A tall banana up to 15 feet, with a stout stem 12 inches in basal diameter, the stalk and petiole washed with mahogany brown. The leaves are broader than those of most bananas, and the flower bracts are creamy white. The short, sticky, thick-skinned fruit has a rather long neck, and the stalk hangs down nearly vertically with the fruits standing out almost at right angles. The orange-colored flesh is filled with very numerous, flattened, round, irregular seeds. There are 12 to 20 hands per stalk (stem) and 8 to 15 fruits in a hand.

137979. *PHAEOMERIA SPECIOSA* (Blume) Koord. Zingiberaceae.

No. 281. *Hondje*. Fruit bought on the market at Buitenzorg, Java, April 7, 1940. A very striking species from Java, with great pinnate leaves rising from the ground to a height of 12 feet; the leaflets are about 2 feet long. The under surface of the leaflets is a lovely bronze-claret color, making the plant, when seen against the sunlight, a wonderfully beautiful thing. It is usually propagated by rhizome cuttings.

For previous introduction see 93316.

137980. *PHAEOMERIA* sp.

No. 3436. *Lotus Blossom Ginger*. From Koro River, Gimpoe, Celebes, April 3, 1940. A beautiful flowering plant, with light-green leaves 2 feet long, 5 inches broad, alternate on a stalk reaching 12 feet high. The flowers arise from the rhizome underground, with the first petals very broad, pink, waxy, tipped with a red beak; later a head emerges composed of numerous watermelon-pink bracts tipped with white and is in the shape of a rounded cone. The individual flowers at the base of the bract open in rows and are tipped with very dark red. The black seeds, enclosed in a rounded fruit about $1\frac{1}{4}$ inches in diameter, are embedded in a sour, edible pulp.

137981. *PIPER* sp. Piperaceae.

No. 3427. From Koelawi, Celebes, March 30, 1940. A creeping vine, with dark-green, ovate-acuminate leaves 5 inches long, $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches broad; the stem is angular-jointed, with creeping tendrils that adhere to surface of tree trunk. Small oblong clusters of round red fruits, $\frac{1}{2}$ inch in diameter, are fairly thickly distributed along the cluster stem; each fruit has a small